

Are you ready to outsource one or more of your financial aid services but not looking forward to the RFP process? **We have a solution – cooperative buying.**

Your state allows for cooperative buying also known as piggybacking on another valid contract. Contracts that have been competitively bid by another public higher education institution (in-state or out-of-state) can in some instances be utilized by another college or university assuming the secondary institution follows the same terms as the original contract.

Consider the Advantages

- **Competitive pricing.** Since the contract has already been competitively bid, you leverage the negotiating power of the original contract, which may be for a larger institution and more competitively priced than you are able to secure on your own.
- **Eliminate the hassle of an RFP.** RFPs take precious time and resources. You and others at your institution could spend hours writing the RFP document, holding vendor meetings, reviewing responses, negotiating contract and pricing terms, and selecting the right vendor.
- **Quicker startup.** Leveraging an existing contract saves time and allows you to implement the products and services much quicker than going through an entire RFP and contracting process.

We are here to help connect you with higher education institutions that have already competitively bid our services to take the worry out of the competitive bidding process for you because it has already been done. Taking advantage of this opportunity allows you to quickly implement our services and stay focused on what is important – your students and helping them succeed!

OKLAHOMA

Title 61, Section 139
Public Buildings and Public Works

A. In addition to any authority to enter an agreement pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act, any school district, including a technology school district, may either participate in, sponsor, conduct or administer a cooperative purchasing agreement for the acquisition of any commodities or services with one or more public agencies in accordance with an agreement entered into between the participants. Such cooperative purchasing may include, but is not limited to, joint or multiparty contracts between public agencies and open-ended state public procurement contracts.

B. Any local public procurement unit may either participate in, sponsor, conduct or administer a cooperative or piggybacking purchasing agreement for the acquisition of any commodities or services, including construction services, with one (1) or more public procurement units or external procurement units in accordance with an agreement entered into between the participants. Such cooperative purchasing may include, but is not limited to, joint or multiparty contracts between public procurement units and open-ended state public procurement unit contracts which are made available to local public procurement units. Purchases made in accordance with this subsection by a local public procurement unit shall be required to satisfy any procurement regulation, including The Central Purchasing Act, the Public Competitive Bidding Act, the Finance Act, related administrative rules and federal regulations that may apply due to the federal source of the funding for the anticipated purchase.

Continued on pg. 2

Continued

C. For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply

"Local public procurement unit" shall mean, inter alia, any county, city, town, state agency, and any other subdivision of the state or public unit or agency thereof;

"External procurement unit" shall mean any buying organization in the United States not located in this state which, if located in this state, would qualify as a public procurement unit; and

"Cooperative or piggybacking purchasing agreement" shall mean an agreement between a local public procurement unit and another local public procurement unit or an external procurement unit to authorize the use of a contract procured by one of the parties to the agreement to benefit the other party to the agreement. This term shall also mean an agreement that provides access to a product or service that is lower in price than a comparable product or service that is available through the usage of a statewide, multi-state or multi-governmental contract issued by the state Purchasing Division.

D. Nothing in this section shall supersede the obligation of a state agency to adhere to rules regarding statewide contracts issued by the state Purchasing Division. Neither shall any provision of this section be construed to waive the obligation of a state agency to utilize a mandatory purchasing contract as designated by the State Purchasing Director

Title 74 State Government

Chapter 31 Interlocal Cooperation Act

§ 74-1001. Purpose

It is the purpose of Section 1001[74-1001] et seq. of this title to permit local governmental units to make the most efficient use of their powers by enabling them to cooperate with other localities on a basis of mutual advantage and thereby to provide services and facilities in a manner and pursuant to forms of governmental organization that will accord best with geographic, economic, population and other factors influencing the needs and development of local communities. The cooperating governmental units can, if they deem it necessary, create an entity to carry out the cooperative functions.

§ 74-1003. Definitions.

A. For the purposes of Section et seq. of this title, the term "public agency" shall mean:

Any political subdivision of this state;

Any agency of the state government or of the United States;

Each and every public trust of this state regardless of whether the beneficiary of such trust is a municipality, a county, or the State of Oklahoma, except the Oklahoma Ordnance Works Authority;

Any corporation organized not for profit pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma General Corporation Act, Section 1001 [18-1001] et seq. of Title 18 of the Oklahoma Statutes, for the primary purpose of developing and providing rural water supply and sewage disposal facilities to serve rural residents or to provide community-based services or assistance to clients of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services as provided in Section 43A- 2-106[43A-43A-2-106] of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

Any political subdivision of another state. B. The term "state" shall mean a state of the United States and the District of Columbia.

§ 74-1004. Agreements Authorized

A. Any power or powers, privileges or authority exercised or capable of exercise by a public agency of this state may be exercised and enjoyed jointly with any other public agency of this state, and jointly with any public agency of any other state or of the United States to the extent that laws of such other state or of the United States permit such joint exercise or enjoyment. Any agency of the state government when acting jointly with any public agency may exercise and enjoy all of the powers, privileges and authority conferred by this act upon a public agency.

Get Started Now

Contact your business development partner, call 888.529.2028 or email InceptiaCS@inceptia.org and we can help you get the most out of your contracting options with your purchasing department.

Please understand the information provided in this flyer does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice; instead, all information, content, and references to statutory or regulatory law contained in this flyer are for general informational purposes only. Information in this flyer may not constitute the most up-to-date summation of the law in your state or summary of other information. You are encouraged to contact your purchasing department or attorney to obtain advice with respect to the availability and ability to qualify for cooperative buying or any other particular legal matter. Only your individual purchasing department or attorney can provide assurances that the information contained herein – and your interpretation of it – is applicable or appropriate to your particular situation. All liability with respect to actions taken or not taken based on the contents of this flyer are hereby expressly disclaimed.